

**01013**

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## EAP PRESS GUIDANCE

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CHINA: HELBING/IRAN BUILD MISSILE FACTORY				IS AUTHOR
PA Exemptions				( ) DOWNGRADING TO ( ) ( ) ( )

Q: Any comment on the report that China is helping Iran build a ballistic missile factory?

A: -- WE HAVE SEEN THIS REPORT. WE CANNOT CONFIRM IT.

ASSISTANCE BY ANY OUTSIDE COUNTRY IN CONSTRUCTION OF SUCH A  
FACILITY WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE OF GREAT CONCERN TO US. WE WILL  
CONTINUE TO MONITOR FOR SIGNS OF SUCH INVOLVEMENT, AS IN ALL  
CASES WHICH COULD AFFECT MISSILE PROLIFERATION.

-- WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER THE GLOBAL DANGERS  
POSED BY THE PROLIFERATION OF BALLISTIC MISSILES AND THEIR  
COMPONENT TECHNOLOGY.

-- WE HAVE EXPRESSED THESE CONCERNs TO THE CHINESE  
ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS , MOST RECENTLY DURING PRESIDENT  
BUSH'S TRIP TO BEIJING.

-- CHINESE LEADERS HAVE RESPONDED THAT THEY WILL  
TAKE A PRUDENT AND RESPONSIBLE ATTITUDE REGARDING WEAPONS  
SALES, INCLUDING THE SALE OF BALLISTIC MISSILES.

-- WE BELIEVE THE PRC UNDERSTANDS THE CONCERNS WE HAVE EXPRESSED, AND OUR CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THEM THUS FAR PROVIDES A BASIS FOR OPTIMISM WITH REGARD TO THE PROLIFERATION OF BALLISTIC MISSILES.

-- THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT CHINESE IRBM'S HAVE  
BEEN SENT TO ANY COUNTRY BESIDES SAUDI ARABIA, EITHER DIRECTLY  
OR INDIRECTLY.

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